



VAJIRAM & RAVI
Institute for IAS Examination

The Analyst

CURRENT AFFAIRS Handout

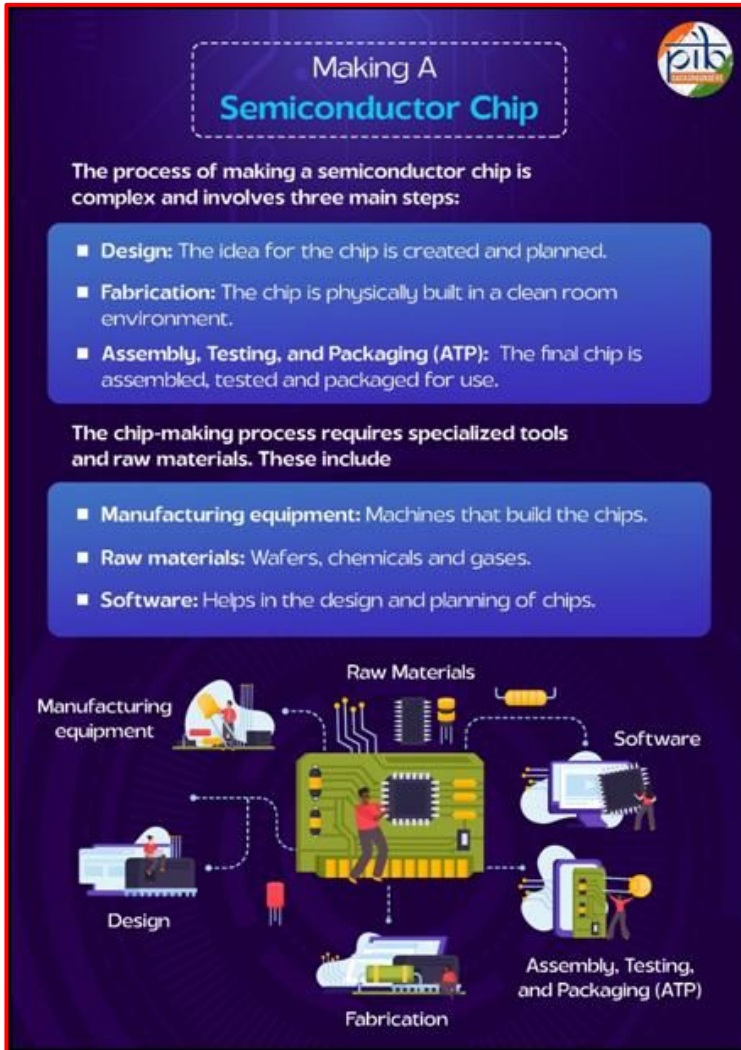
26th December 2025



India will soon become Self-Reliant in Semiconductors

26th December, 2025

CONTEXT: Union Home Minister is confident that India will soon become self-reliant in the semiconductor industry and start exporting despite making a “late entry” into the sector.



- when certain materials are added to them and an electric field is applied, current can start to flow. Adding phosphorus to semiconducting materials, such as silicon and germanium, for example, allows the flow of a negative current.
- **can be pure elements**, such as Silicon or Germanium, **or compounds** like Gallium arsenide or Cadmium selenide.
- **Properties-** The *resistance* of the semiconductor *decreases with an increase in temperature* and vice versa.

India as a player in the Semiconductor Market:

- **Global semiconductor market - USD 1 Trillion by 2030** with India's market occupying a substantial portion of it.
- **Major Centres of Semiconductor Manufacturing:**
 - **East Asian countries** like **Taiwan** (TSMC), **South Korea** (Samsung), and **China** (NAURA Technology), which account for **over 70% of the global market share**.

What are Semiconductors?

- Semiconductors are unique, in that most materials are either conductors which let electric current flow or insulators which block electricity. For instance, a copper wire is a conductor, while glass is an insulator.
- **Although in their natural state, semiconductors are a weak conductor of electricity,**



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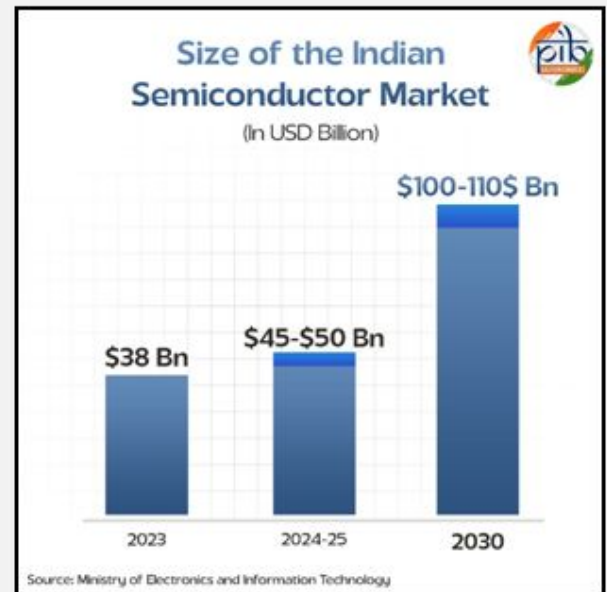
- **United States** – home to chip design and R&D tech giants like **Intel and Qualcomm**.
- **Europe (Germany and Netherlands)** focuses on speciality chips and automotive applications.
- **India's Achievements:**
 - **Vikram 3201:** India's first fully indigenous microprocessor – a type of semiconductor chip, developed by the semiconductor laboratory of ISRO.
 - **DHRUV 64:** India's first homegrown 1.0 GHz, 64-bit dual-core microprocessor, strengthens the indigenous processor pipeline.
 - developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) under the Microprocessor Development Programme.

Before DHRUV 64, India had already begun expanding its **indigenous microprocessor development ecosystem** in recent years.

Key examples include:

- **SHAKTI (2018, IIT Madras):** Designed for strategic, space, and defence applications;
- **AJIT (2018, IIT Bombay):** A microprocessor for industrial and robotics applications;

As per industry estimates, the size of the Indian semiconductor market was about \$38 Bn in 2023, \$45-\$50 billion in 2024-25 and is expected to reach \$ 100-110\$ Bn by 2030.



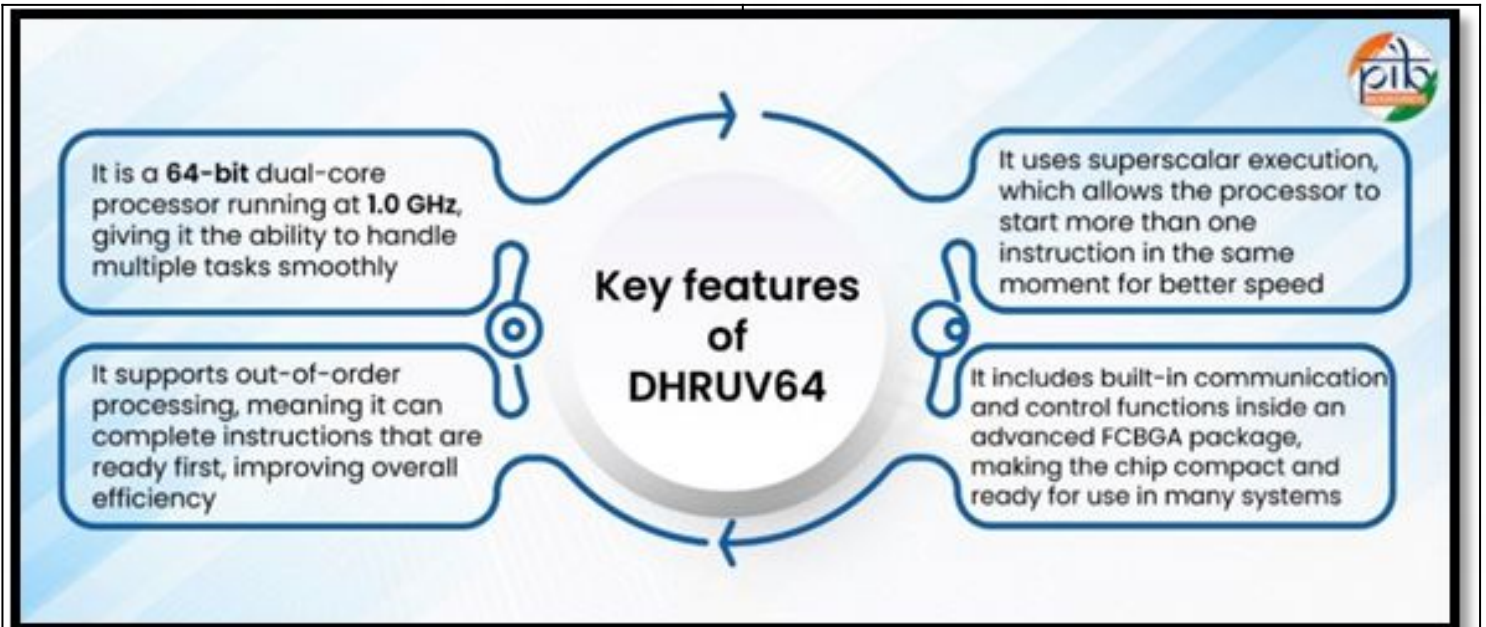
- **VIKRAM (2025, ISRO-SCL):** A processor developed for space applications such as navigation, guidance, and mission operations; engineered to withstand extreme space conditions;
- **THEJAS64 (2025, C-DAC):** Designed for industrial automation.



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Why Semiconductor Industry Matters: A Strategic Context:

- **Backbone of modern technology:** contemporary automobiles, household gadgets such as refrigerators, and essential medical devices such as ECG machines.
- **Industry 4.0:** industry's growth is fuelled by the demand for faster, compact components for smart devices and the rise of artificial intelligence, needing powerful chips for real-time data processing.
- **“Ripple effect”:** By 2026, it is projected to generate over 300,000 jobs in downstream sectors like automotive, electronics, and telecom.
- **Propeller of emerging technologies:** like **AI, 5G, or driverless cars** is dependent upon a fast and cheap semiconductor industry.

- **Integration in Global value Chain:** Apple has started iPhone assembly in India, with Foxconn operating plants in Tamil Nadu and AP.

Challenges:

- **Capital-intensive:** The Semiconductor fabrication unit undertakings cost billions of dollars for extensive facilities.
 - **Complexity in manufacturing:** requiring at least 300 different high-technology inputs.
 - **Long gestation period:** A state-of-the-art fabrication unit can take up to five years before full production



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- **Supply chains risks:**
 - **Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, China, and the US** dominate production—with **Taiwan alone making over 60% of the world's semiconductors** and 90% of the most advanced ones, creating risks if supply chains falter.
 - **Lack of highly skilled labour:**
 - Acc to Economic Survey, 2023-24 – only 51% of the graduates are employable
 - Only 4% of India's workforce has received formal vocational training.
 - **Scarcity of raw materials:** silicon, Germanium & Gallium arsenide, and Silicon carbide are needed, but they are unavailable in India and must be imported.
- Steps taken:**
- **India Semiconductor Mission:** December 2021
 - provide financial support for investments in semiconductor fabrication, display manufacturing & chip design.
 - India now has **10 approved semiconductor projects across six states**, including its first commercial Silicon Carbide fab in Odisha.
 - **Design-Linked Incentive (DLI) Scheme:** launched in 2021,
 - aims to offer financial incentives as well as design infrastructure support across various stages of development deployment of semiconductor design for Integrated Circuits (ICs), Chips, Systems on Chips (SoCs), Systems and IP Cores, and semiconductor-linked design for over five years.
 - **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme:** incentive of 4% to 6% on goods manufactured in India and covered under target segments to eligible companies for a period of five years.
 - **India-US Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET):** 2022
 - **Six focus areas:** Strengthening innovation ecosystems, Defence innovation and technology cooperation, **Resilient semiconductor supply chains**, R Space, STEM (science, technology, engineering, and math) talent and Next-generation telecom.
 - **Semicon India programme:** total outlay of INR 76,000 crore for the development of semiconductor and display manufacturing ecosystem in the country.



India will soon become Self-Reliant in Semiconductors



CONTEXT: Union Home Minister is confident that India will soon become self-reliant in the semiconductor industry and start exporting despite making a “late entry” into the sector.

Way ahead:

- **Initial Focus on back-end of manufacturing:** India should especially look at back-end of manufacturing such as assembly, packaging and testing. Once it stabilises and an ecosystem develops, front-end of manufacturing will follow.
- **Global Collaborations :** Strengthen alliances with countries like the USA, Taiwan, and Japan to ensure efficient supply chains and access to vital raw materials and technologies.
- **Chip Diplomacy:** Leverage geopolitical shifts (US-China tensions) to expand India's semiconductor footprint.
 - Attract global firms (TSMC partners, Micron, Foxconn) looking for a China-plus-one location
- **Skilled Workforce Development**
- **Boost R&D & Indigenous IP**

Mains Practise Question

“Why is the semiconductor industry strategically important for India? Discuss the key policy measures taken by the government to promote this sector.”

(15 Marks, 250 words)



26th December, 2025

CONTEXT: Recently various incidents of mob lynching has been reported from various parts of the country.

What is Mob Lynching?

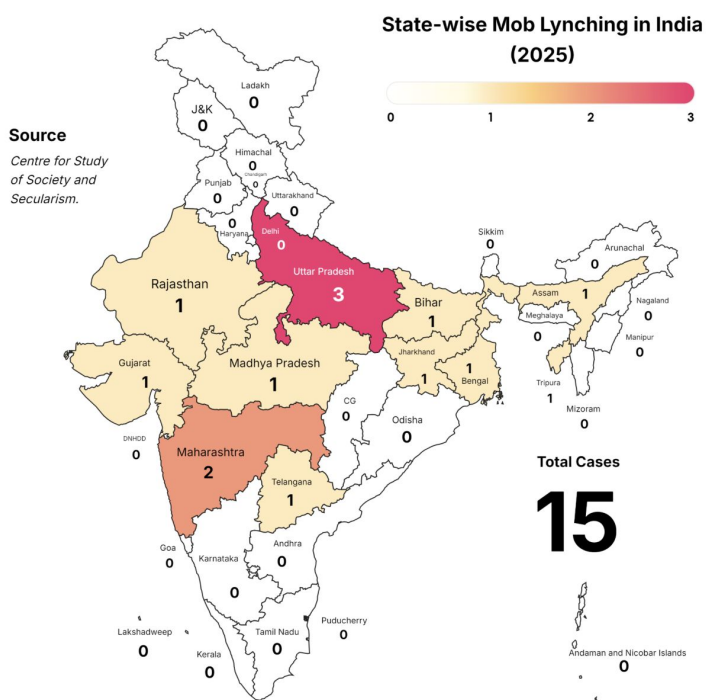
- A form of violence in which a mob, under the pretext of administering justice without trial, executes a presumed offender, often after inflicting torture.
- Cow Vigilantism is a violence in the name of cow protection, threatening secularism and social harmony, often driven by suspicion.

Reasons:

- **Perceived Threat to Culture or Identity:** e.g. The **2015 Dadri lynching** refers to the case in which a mob attacked the home of **52-year-old Mohammad Akhlaq** killing him over suspicions of cow slaughter.
 - Cow vigilantism is responsible for 50% of the incidents.
- **Administrative Failure:**
 - **Centre for Study of Society and Secularism report:** Law enforcement agencies frequently respond late, with an average delay of two hours according to NHRC 2023, and the conviction rate for lynching stands at a mere 10%.
 - **Tehseen S. Poonawalla (2018):** SC warned against "mobocracy"

- and directed states to appoint nodal officers and enact deterrent laws.
- **Trust Deficit in Institutions:** idea of the so-called form of 'instant' justice is immensely popular.
- **Rumours on social media:** Misinformation and propagandas
 - **According to CSSS 2024,** 70% of incidents are ignited by WhatsApp forwards, which rapidly disseminate rumors about child-lifting or beef in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh.
- **Moral Vigilantism:** enforce *their interpretation of social norms*
 - **National Crime Records Bureau,** more than 2,500 people, mostly women, were killed in India on **suspicion of witchcraft** between 2000 and 2016.
- **Mob Psychology:** People have less fear of being punished

State wise Mob Lynching Incidents in India



26th December, 2025

CONTEXT: Recently various incidents of mob lynching has been reported from various parts of the country.

Eight arrested in Bihar over mob lynching of cloth vendor

The police registered a case on December 6, based on a statement from Shabnam Parveen, victim Mohammad Athar Hussain's wife. The complainant named 10 people in the FIR and stated that they had lynched her husband on charge of theft.

Updated - December 16, 2025 01:40 am IST - PATNA

Times of India

Akhlaq lynching case: Court rejects UP govt plea to withdraw charges against all accused; terms it 'base'

India News: NEW DELHI: A court in Gautam Buddha Nagar on Tuesday dismissed the Uttar Pradesh government's plea seeking withdrawal of charges...

2 days ago



Impact of mob lynching:

- **Threat to secular fabric**
- **Endangers freedom of speech, expression**
- **Subverts rule of law**
- **Fear Psychosis:** actually hate crimes where identity of the victims seems to be the real cause
 - **IndiaSpend:** lynching deaths reported **between 2010 and 2017, 84%** were Muslims.
- **Economic Impact:** disrupted cattle trade and leather and meat export industries
 - seriously hurt the livelihood of nomadic herders (e.g. Banjara nomadic community in Rajasthan).

Steps Taken:

- **Delhi Compensation Policy:** formulating a policy to provide compensation to lynching victims and their families (e.g., ₹3-10 lakh for families of lynching victims; ₹20,000-₹5 lakh for mob violence injuries), based on severity.
- **Legal Provisions:** Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023

○ **Section 103(2) – Mob Lynching as Murder**

- **Murder** committed by **five or more persons** acting in concert, motivated by identity-based grounds such as race, caste, community, sex, place of birth, language or personal belief, is treated as mob lynching.
- **Punishment:** Death penalty or life imprisonment, along with fine.

○ **Section 117(4) – Grievous Hurt by a Mob**

- Causing grievous hurt by a **mob of five or more persons** on similar discriminatory grounds.
- **Punishment:** Imprisonment up to 7 years and fine.
- **Social Media Oversight:** Govt response: WhatsApp limited message forwarding to 5 chats (2018).
- **Manipur (2018)** became first state to pass an anti-lynching law; others (**West bengal & Rajasthan**)



Mob Lynching



CONTEXT: Recently various incidents of mob lynching has been reported from various parts of the country.

Way ahead: SC guidelines in Tehseen Poonawalla vs Union of India in 2018:

- **Designated officer**– not below the rank of Superintendent of Police
- **Lodge FIR**– The immediate lodging of an FIR
- **Duty of Station House Officer**– To inform the nodal officer in the district, to ensure that the families of the victims are secured from further harassment.
- The investigation of the crime should be personally monitored by the nodal officer.
- **Duty of police officer** – It is the duty of every police officer to cause a mob to disperse that seems to cause violence, in their opinion.
- **Victim compensation**
- **Negligence of duty**– Appropriate action will be taken for negligence of duty **within 6 months**.
- **Role of States**– take disciplinary action against their officials if they did not prevent the incident of mob lynching,
 - Despite having prior knowledge of it, or
 - Where the incident has already occurred,
 - Official did not promptly apprehend and institute criminal proceedings against the culprits.

Mains PYQ

“Mob violence is emerging as a serious law and order problem in India. By giving suitable examples, analyze the causes and consequences of such violence.” (2017)
(15 Marks, 250 words)

Mains Practise Question

“Mob lynching represents a grave challenge to the rule of law and constitutional morality in India.”
Discuss the causes of mob lynching and critically examine the effectiveness of legal and institutional measures taken by the state to address it.”
(15 Marks, 250 words)



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Polity

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 01

The **National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)**, a secure platform for the police and other investigating agencies to access government and private databases in real-time, has been linked to the **National Population Register (NPR)**, which has the family-wise details of 119 crore residents in India, government officials have said.

The **Union Home Ministry** has been pushing for the enhanced use of **NATGRID** by the State police forces and Central law and security agencies for intelligence gathering and speedy investigation of criminal cases through indigenous and secure platforms.

About NATGRID

- It is a platform for the police and investigating agencies to securely access government and private databases in **real time information** on terrorists, economic crimes and similar incidents to help bolster India's capabilities.
- **Nodal Ministry:** under the Ministry of Home Affairs
- **Background**
 - The project was **first being conceptualised in 2009** in the aftermath of the 26/11 Mumbai terror attacks.

- became **operational last year.**
- **Accessible only to security agencies:** Intelligence Bureau (**IB**), the Research and Analysis Wing, the National Investigation Agency (**NIA**), the Enforcement Directorate (**ED**), the Financial Intelligence Unit (**FIU**), the Narcotics Control Bureau (**NCB**) and the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (**DRI**).
 - Superintendent of Police-rank officers
- **Gandiva:** upgraded NATGRID tool, supports multi-source data collection and analysis, can be used for facial recognition and entity resolution
 - **How it works?** – If the image of a suspect is available, it can be fed into Gandiva. If any photo identity document such as telecom KYC or vehicle registration or driving licence matches with the photo, Gandiva can provide the details, thereby saving time and resources of an investigator.
- **On December 9**, the Ministry informed the Lok Sabha that an **Organised Crime Network Database** is being developed on NATGRID IT platform to facilitate secure data-sharing between National Investigation Agency (NIA) and State Anti-Terror Squads (ATS).



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Polity

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 01

- **Categories of access Request:**

- *three categories: non-sensitive, sensitive, and highly sensitive.*
- Bank statements, financial transactions, tax information, export-import data have been classified as highly sensitive information.

- **Privacy concerns:**

- police and security agencies can **access almost all kinds of data** about a citizen **without even having to register a First Information Report.**
- **Oversight mechanism:** Each query is logged in the system. The purpose of the information being sought has to be stated and the senior police officers have an oversight.

About NPR

- NPR is a **database of usual residents in India**, aimed at enhancing governance and welfare delivery through accurate demographic data.

- **includes citizens and non-citizens** living in the country for **more than six months.**

- **Nodal Agency:** Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner of India, (MHA).
- **Link to Census:** Data for NPR, which stores **information family wise:**

First collected in 2010 with the **first phase of the 2011 Census** and was **last updated in 2015** through *door-door enumeration*.

- It was to be updated further during the 2021 Census which was **indefinitely delayed due to COVID-19 pandemic.**
- Government informed the Lok Sabha that **no decision** has been taken **to update the NPR** during the **forthcoming Census exercise (2027).**
- NPR is the first step for the creation of a countrywide National Register of Citizens (NRC).



Intel Grid linked to NPR



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Polity

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 01

Aspect	NPR	NRC
Focus	Residents of India	Verification of Indian citizenship
Legal basis	Citizenship Rules, 2003 (Rule 3, Sub-rule 4)	Citizenship Rules, 2003 (Rule 4 and Rule 4A)
Applicability	Includes all residents, regardless of citizenship	Only Indian citizens and their status
Utility	Stand-alone or preliminary database for NRC	Citizenship determination exercise



100 indian villages to be tsunami-ready



SYLLABUS: Prelims: International Organisations
Newspaper : The Indian Express; **Page No : 11**

INDIA WOULD soon have over 100 tsunami-ready villages among the Indian Ocean region. India will be the first country with as many villages in this region with this distinction.

About Tsunami-ready village initiative

- **Tsunami-ready village is certified to the ones that have:**
 - high awareness about tsunami
 - hazard preparedness and mapping
 - public display of evacuation maps
 - 24-hour warning systems
 - participation in mock drills among others.
- The certification is awarded by **UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.**
- **Voluntary community-based programme** that facilitates tsunami preparedness by actively collaborating with the public, community leaders, local and national emergency management agencies.
- **Recent development:**
 - In addition to the **existing 24 coastal villages** across six districts with this certification, **Odisha is set to add 72 more villages** to this list.

About IOC

- **Established - 1960**
- **Aim:** promotes marine science cooperation for sustainable ocean governance.
- **Members:** 150 Member States (including India)
- **Focus areas:** enables its Member States to work together to protect the health of our shared ocean by **coordinating programmes in areas** such as *ocean observations, tsunami warnings and marine spatial planning.*
 - **Ocean science research:** Supports studies on **climate change, biodiversity, and sustainability.**
 - **Tsunami warning systems:** Maintains **early warning mechanisms** to mitigate risks.
 - **Ocean observations:** Collects and analyzes **oceanographic data** for policy-making.
- It leads the **UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030)**, known as the **"Ocean Decade"**, advancing global marine conservation efforts.



100 indian villages to be tsunami-ready



SYLLABUS: Prelims: International Organisations
Newspaper : The Indian Express; **Page No : 11**

About INCOIS

- **Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services** was **established in 1999** under the **Ministry of Earth Sciences** and is a unit of the **Earth System Science Organisation (ESSO)**.
- **Location:** Hyderabad
- **Key Functions:**
 - **Permanent member of UNESCO's** Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (**IOC**).

- Provides *vital ocean-related information and advisory services*.
- **operates the** the Indian Tsunami Early Warning Centre which tracks earthquakes globally, and issues tsunami warnings for the Indian Ocean region.
- coordinating institute for implementing **UNESCO-IOC 'Tsunami Ready' initiative**.



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy

Newspaper : The Hindu; **Page No : 15**

What are GCCs?

- GCCs are **fully-owned, strategic offshore units of multinational corporations (MNCs)** established in talent-rich, cost-effective locations to provide specialized functions like IT, finance, R&D, and customer service.
- Initially focused on cost savings and back-office support, GCCs have evolved into **innovation hubs and centers of excellence**.
- They **drive product development** and complex business processes, adding significant value to the parent organization.
- **Key benefits** include access to diverse global talent, operational efficiency, enhanced control, and fostering innovation.

Growth of GCCs in India

- India is now a center for high-value technology-driven solutions, with GCCs accounting for –
 - ~40% of digital transformation projects.
 - ~20% of the world's chip designers.
 - ~40% of India's services exports, second only to IT services.
- **Major companies** like Amazon (Hyderabad) and Goldman Sachs (Bengaluru and Hyderabad) have set up their largest global offices in India.
- Thus, **India is becoming for services what China is for tech hardware**.



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 15

Mini Tejaswi

BENGALURU

Global Capability Centres, (GCCs), offshore subsidiaries set up by multinational corporations, are now the primary engine sustaining India's technology job market, contrasting sharply with the hiring slowdown witnessed by large IT firms in the country.

In the October-December quarter of FY26, GCCs demonstrated resilience logging 5-7% sequential growth and 48% of GCCs planning workforce expansion in the coming year, signalling strategic growth, driven by a pivot to high-value, specialised work, as per data exclusively shared



GCC roles are being created to support AI adoption.

sion in the coming year, signalling strategic growth, driven by a pivot to high-value, specialised work, as per data exclusively shared

by Tholons, a New York-based advisory firm.

'Pivot to high value'

"This people's growth is strategic, driven by a pivot to high-value and specialised work. The current hyperactivity in GCC space is a second wave of capability, not just cost-arbitrage, and it is about positioning the GCC as the strategic core for high-end talent and R&D," Avinash Vashishtha, CEO and Chairman of Tholons Inc., and former chairman and CEO of Accenture India, told *The*

Hindu.

As per Tholons, India now hosts 1,850 GCCs employing almost two million professionals and projected to have more than 2,400 GCCs by 2030 and employ more than three million workers to achieve a \$125 billion market size, signalling transition into strategic 'enterprise AI brains.'

On GCC jobs coming up even in non metros, Mr. Vashishtha said GCC growth had been widespread as Tier II and Tier III cities such as Nagpur, In-

dore, Coimbatore and Kochi recorded 8-9% quarterly growth, decentralising the tech workforce beyond major metros.

"A specialised nature of this growth commands a premium salary. GCCs offer 12-20% higher salaries compared with traditional IT services firms," he said.

Quantum growth

Xpheno, a specialist staffing firm in Bengaluru, conducted a comparative study of the leadership talent growth between IT services and the GCC sector. The



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Economy

Newspaper : The Hindu; Page No : 15

Through a consensus, the **Kimberley Process (KP) Plenary** has selected India to be its chairperson from January 1, 2026. This is the **third time India** will chair the Kimberley Process, a tripartite initiative involving governments, the international diamond industry and the civil society to prevent the trade in “conflict diamonds”—rough diamonds used by rebel groups or allies to finance conflicts undermining legitimate governments, as defined in UN Security Council resolutions.

“India’s selection reflects global trust in the government’s commitment to fostering integrity and transparency in international trade,” Commerce & Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said in a statement.

The **Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC)**, the nodal agency for the Kimberley Process (KP) in India, has welcomed India’s selection.

About Kimberley Process

- It is a **international certification scheme** established in **2003** with the goal of preventing the flow of conflict diamonds.
- The core of this regime is the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS), under which States implement safeguards on shipments of rough diamonds and **certify them as “conflict-free”**.
- Conflict Diamonds** means rough diamonds used by rebel movements or their allies to finance conflict aimed at undermining legitimate governments.

- Significance:** an important protocol in trade of diamonds which has ensured that **99.8% of the diamonds in the world are conflict-free**.
- India:**
 - India is one of the **founder members** of the KPCS.
 - had earlier chaired KPCS in the year **2008 & 2019**.
- Members: 60 participants** including EU with its 28 member states.
- It is **chaired on a rotating basis** by participating countries.
- Since 2003**, India has been actively participating in the KPCS process and is a member of almost all Working Groups of KP.
 - Department of Commerce** is the nodal Department, and
 - Gem & Jewellery Export Promotion Council** is designated as the **KPCS Importing and Exporting Authority in India**.
 - GJEPC is responsible for issuing KP Certificates and is also the custodian of KP Certificates received in the country.



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Statutory bodies
Newspaper : The Hindu; **Page No : 14**

FSSAI bars food firms from terming herbal infusions 'tea'

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a stern warning to food business operators against using the word 'tea' for herbal infusions and plant-based blends not derived from *Camellia sinensis*, terming it a case of misbranding and misleading practices under the law. The directive comes after the regulator found several food business operators (FBOs) marketing products, such as 'herbal tea' and 'flower tea', none of which are obtained from the *Camellia sinensis* plant. According to FSSAI regulations, the term 'tea' can only be used on packaging and labelling if the beverage is derived from *Camellia sinensis*. PTI



Camellia sinensis: is a species of **evergreen shrub** or small tree in the family Theaceae, primarily cultivated for its **leaves and leaf buds** to produce the beverage known as tea.

- the source of *black, green, Kangra, and instant teas*.

Implications:

- They now need to be *rebranded as "herbal infusions" or "botanical blends."*
- E-commerce platforms will have to relist thousands of products, while *smaller wellness brands may struggle* to maintain visibility without the familiar "tea" tag.
- reinforcing the global ***reputation of Assam and Darjeeling tea.***

About FSSAI

- an **autonomous statutory body** established under the *Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006*.
 - consolidates various acts & orders that had earlier handled food related issues in various Ministries and Departments, such as—
 - Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954
 - Fruit Products Order, 1955
 - Meat Food Products Order, 1973
 - Vegetable Oil Products (Control) Order, 1947



SYLLABUS: Prelims: Statutory bodies
Newspaper : The Hindu; **Page No : 14**

- Edible Oils Packaging (Regulation) Order 1988
- Milk and Milk Products Order, 1992
- **Administrative Ministry - Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**
- **Functions:**
 - **Standards Development:** FSSAI formulates standards for various food products, ensuring they are safe for consumption.
 - **Food Safety Management Systems:** It provides guidelines for businesses to implement effective food safety management practices.
 - **Licensing and Registration:** FSSAI manages the licensing process for food businesses, ensuring they comply with food safety regulations.
 - **Surveillance and Monitoring:** Regular inspections and audits are conducted to assess compliance with food safety standards.

- **Consumer Awareness:** Initiatives to educate the public about food safety, hygiene, and nutrition are a key focus area.
- **Anyone selling or importing food in India** needs a food licence issued by FSSAI.
- responsible for the **accreditation of food testing laboratories** throughout India.
- **Structure:**
 - **22 members and a chairperson.**
 - **One-third** of the members must be **women**.
 - **chairperson of FSSAI is appointed by the central government**, and he must have held the position of **not below the rank of Secretary** to the Government of India.
 - *Team of scientists and researchers* for the testing of food quality.



26th December, 2025

Q1. Regarding semiconductors, consider the following statements:

1. Pure silicon behaves as an insulator at absolute zero temperature.
2. In their natural state, semiconductors are weak conductors of electricity.
3. An increase in temperature increases the conductivity of semiconductors.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: c

Q2.Regarding NATGRID in India, consider the following statements:

1. It enables real-time access to data from multiple government and private databases for counter-terrorism and economic offence investigations.
2. It functions under the Ministry of Defence and is accessible to the State Police at all levels.
3. Gandiva is an upgraded analytical layer of NATGRID that supports facial recognition and entity resolution.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 3 only
- b) 1 and 3 only
- c) 1 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: b

Q3. Regarding Tsunami-Ready Village certification, consider the following statements:

1. It is awarded to coastal villages that demonstrate community-level preparedness for tsunami hazards.
2. The certification mandates the installation of satellite-based tsunami detection buoys within the village limits.
3. It emphasises public awareness, evacuation planning, and participation in mock drills.

How many of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) Only One
- b) Only Two
- c) All Three
- d) None

Answer: b

Q4. With reference to Global Capability Centres (GCCs) in India, consider the following statements:

1. GCCs are wholly owned subsidiaries that multinational enterprises establish in talent-rich regions.
2. India's GCC growth is linked to the availability of skilled human capital.
3. All GCCs in India operate only in the IT services sector.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 2 only
- b) 1 only
- c) 2 and 3 only
- d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: a

Q5. Regarding the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India, consider the following statements:

1. It functions under the administrative control of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.
2. One-third of its members must be women.
3. It is responsible only for the enforcement of food safety laws and not for framing food standards.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- a) 1 and 3 only
- b) 1 and 2 only
- c) 1, 2 and 3
- d) 2 only

Answer: d





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